

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 AGR-20 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25 AF-10 TRSE-00

COME-00 /166 W

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R 301235Z JUN 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOUG

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY FORTLAMU

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDISABABA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USUN NEWYORK 9072

SECSTATE WASHDC 137

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 GENEVA 3245

ROME FOR FODAG

PARIS FOR RAICHT AND MAURICE WILLIAMS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AOR, UN, SWEL

SUBJ: SUMMARY OF UN MEETING ON MEDIUM AND LONG TERM SUDANO-

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SAHELIAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

.1. A MEETING CHAIRED BY UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN, BRADFORD MORSE, WAS CALLED ON JUNE 28-29 TO CONSIDER PROBLEMS OF MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT IN SAHEL AS RESULT FROM PRESENT CATASTROPHIC DROUGHT. JUNE 28 SESSION WAS LIMITED TO MEMBERS OF UN FAMILY AND PURPOSE OF THAT DAY'S SESSION, ACCORDING TO MORSE, WAS TO ASSURE THAT UN FAMILY WAS RESPONDING IN COHERENT MANNER TO SAHEL NEEDS. JUNE 29 MEETING EXPANDED TO INCLUDE INTERESTED UN MEMBER STATES, MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATION AND PRIVATE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AS WELL AS UN FAMILY. THERE FOLLOW SUMMARIES OF MORE IMPORTANT STATEMENTS MADE DURING JUNE 29 SESSION, EXCLUDING US DELEGATION STATEMENT WHICH TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL.

2. OPENING STATEMENT BY UN UNDER SEC GEN MORSE. MORSE STATED THAT MEETING HELD TO CARRY OUT SECRETARY GENERAL'S MANDATE UNDER ECOSOC RESOLUTION OF MAY 29, RESOLUTION CALLED UPON SEC GEN TO ENABLE UN SYSTEM TO RESPOND TO MEDIUM AND LONG TERM ASSISTANCE REQUESTS OF STATES IN SAHELIAN ZONE. THE MEETING HAD TWO PURPOSES--ON THE FIRST DAY TO HAVE THE UN AGENCIES DEVELOP COMMON APPROACH TO PROBLEM; THE SECOND DAY, TO PRESENT THESE APPROACHES TO OTHER INTERESTED DONOR GROUPS, GET THEIR COMMENTS ON THEM, AND OBTAIN THEIR COOPERATION WITH UN IN MEETING THE PROBLEM. MORSE STRESSED THAT IN NO WAY WAS THIS INTENDED AS PLEDGING SESSION. HE ALSO NOTED THAT CONCERN OF THESE TWO DAYS' DISCUSSION WAS FOCUSED ON MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM REQUIREMENTS, NOT EMERGENCY NEEDS WHICH WERE BEING DEALT WITH IN OTHER FORAM MORSE EMPHASIZED THAT INITIATIVE FOR MEDIUM/LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS MUST COME FROM SIX STATES INVOLVED AND DONORS SHOULD BE READY RESPOND TO SUCH INITIATIVES.

3. OPENING STATEMENT OF UPPER VOLTA MINISTER AGRICULTURE AND SAHEL INTERSTATE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DAKOURE. DAKOURE EXPRESSED THANKS OF AFFECTED STATES FOR RESPONSE OF DONORS TO EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS, BUT POINTED OUT TRANSPORT OF GRANS AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS REMAINS MAJOR PROBLEM AND THERE NEED FOR ACCELERATED DELIVERY SYSTEMS, ESPECIALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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THROUGH AIRLIFTS AND PARACHUTE DROPS.

DAKOURE STATED IT NOW NECESSARY TO STRIKE AT ROOTS OF PROBLEM THAT CAUSED DROUGHT. MARCH OUAGADOUGOU MINISTRIAL MEETING HAD DEFINED TRENDS FOR MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT. THESE INCLUDED NEEDS FOR RESERVE FOOD STOCKS, RECONSTITUTION OF FARM AND LIVESTOCK CAPACITY, FURTHER STUDY OF DROUGHT PHENOMENON IN ORDER PREVENT FUR-

THUR RECURRENCE, DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL POLICIES THAT ARE MORE RATIONAL AT NATIONAL LEVEL AND MORE COHESIVE WITHIN REGIONAL FRAMEWORK.

DAKOURE INDICATED THAT PROGRAM NOW REQUIRED DID NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT ANYTHING NEW BUT SIMPLY A CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS FOR WHICH DONOR SUPPORT IN PST HAD BEEN INADEQUATE. ONE REASON PAST DONOR SUPPORT HAD BEEN INADEQUATE WAS DONOR INSISTENCE ON ECONOMIC CRITERIA INADEQUATELY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT SOCIAL NEEDS AND EXTREME DEMANDS BY DONORS FOR COUNTRY COUNTERPART CONTRIBUTIONS. THE ONLY ADVANTAGE TO CATASTROPHE, IF ONE CAN TALK OF ADVANTAGES UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, IS THAT IT DRAWING AID TO AREA BUT DAKOURE STRESSED THAT NEEDS OF AREA ARE ONLY DEFINABLE BY THOSE EXPERIENCED IN REGION.

COORDINATION IS NECESSARY. IN JULY INTERSTATE COMMITTEE OF SIX SAHELIAN STATES, OF WHICH DAKOURE IS CHAIRMAN, WILL MEET TO ESTABLISH TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEES AND DEVELOP PROJECTS BASED ON MARCH MINISTERIAL MEETINGS RECOMMENDATIONS.

WHILE CURRENT MEETING NOT DESIGNED FOR PLEDGING, AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS ARE ANXIOUS FUNDS BE AVAILABLE FOR USE ONCE PROJECTS DEFINED. TODAY DONORS ARE READY RESPOND TO NEEDS CAUSED BY DROUGHT, BUT TOMORROW THERE MAY BE OTHER PRIORITIES. IF A FUND FOR SAHELIAN DEVELOPMENT IS NOT SET UP TODAY, IT MAY PROVE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE LATER. CONSEQUENTLY, DAKOURE URGED THAT SPECIAL FUND BE CONSIDERED BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY NOW IF WORLD REALLY WISHES GIVE NEW HOPE TO THOSE WHO LIVE IN SAHEL.

4. FAO, UNEP, AND UNDP THEN SUMMARIZED THEIR LATEST PLANS FOR DEALING WITH SAHEL PROBLEM.

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R 301235Z JUN 73
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TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
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5. UNDER SECRETARY GNERAL MORSE THENSUMMARIZED RESULTS
OF JUNE 28 MEETING OF UN AGENCIES. FOLLOWING WERE PRINA
CIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO SECTEN:

(A) RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATION OF UN SYSTEM,
AND HOPEFULLY OTHERS, FOR MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM WOULD
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REST ON TEMPORARY BASIS WITH SECRETARY GENERAL, INCLUDING
RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY FINANCIAL APPEALS.

(B) A SMALL TECHNICAL COORDINATING STAFF WOULD BE
ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK UNDER THE UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL
FOR THIS PURPOSE. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES HAVE OFFERED PER-
SONS FOR THIS STAFF.

(C) EACH UN COMPONENT WILL ESTABLISH A LIAISON
POINT FOR INFORMATION FLOW ON SAHELIAN PROGRAMS.

KD) THE PERMANENT INTERSTATE COMMITTEE AT OUAGADOUGOU
IS RECOGNIZED AS THE PRINCIPAL ORGAN FOR REGIONAL AND
FIELD COORDINATION. UN SYG REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AS-
SIGNED OUAGADOUGOU TO COORDINATE FIELD ACTIVITIES OF UN
SYSTEM ON MID AND LONG-TERM, AND TO PROVIDE LIAISON WITH
PERMANENT INTERSTATE COMMITTEE.

(E) CONSULTATIONS WILL BEGIN AT ONCE WITHIN UN AND WITH ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO ASSESS THEIR INTEREST AND CAPACITIES, IN PREPARATION FOR MEETING LATE 1973 OR EARLY 1974 TO PUT TOGETHER COORDINATED PROGRAM FOR MEDIUM AND LONG TERM. MORSE ADDED THAT EVEN EARLIER MEETING CONTEMPLATED ON RECOVERY PROGRAM IN ORDER TO AVOID EMERGENCY IN 1974.

6. STATEMENTS THEN MADE BY VARIETY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT, MOST OF WHICH INDICATED GENERAL SYMPATHY PROBLEM AND INTEREST IN MANNER IN WHICH UN IS ORGANIZING ITSELF. THERE CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION EVIDENCED IN THOSE STATEMENTS AS TO DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN SHORT, MEDIUM, AND LONG-TERM NEEDS. WHILE MOST STATEMENTS SUPPORTED KEY ROLE OF SAHEL INTERSTATE COMMITTEE, THERE WERE MANY WHICH TALKED OF THE NEED FOR THE DONOR COMMUNITY "TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES", "DEVELOP PROGRAMS" AND SO FORTH WHICH TENDED FLY IN FACE OF DAKOURE'S VIEWS ON INTERRELATIONSHIP OF AFRICAN STATES AND DONOR COMMUNITY.

7. FED STATED IT WOULD BE IN FOREFRONT IN THIS BATTLE. RIGHT AFTER APPROVING EMERGENCY MEASURES FED BEGAN CON-
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SIDERING MEDIUM AND LONG TERM. SUPPORTED INTERSTATE COMMITTEE AT OUAGADOUGOU AS FOCAL POINT BECAUSE COORDINATION NEEDS TO BE CLOSE TO THE BATTLEFIELD. STATED THAT INTERVENTIONS THIS PROBLEM COMPLEX FOR THREE REASONS: (1) FINANCIAL WEAKNESS OF SIX COUNTRIES, (2) PROBLEM OF ACHIEVING EFFICIENCY IN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND (3) TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS. URGED DRAWING ON TECHNOLOGY FROM ALL OVER WORLD WITH DEVELOPMENT CHEAPER TECHNOLOGY IF POSSIBLE. POINTED OUT THAT SAHARA LARGEST DESERT IN WORLD AND EXPERIMENTS THERE WOULD BE USEFUL IN MAKING DESERTS HABITABLE WORLDWIDE.

8. FRANCE CITED NEED TO COMPLEMENT EMERGENCY PROGRAM WITH SEEDS, REBUILDING LIVESTOCK, ETC. BUT ALSO NEED LOOK AT LONGER TERM PROBLEMS SUCH AS CYCLICAL FIFTY YEAR PHENOMENON WHICH BRING MAJOR TRANSFORMATION TO THE ECONOMY AND LIVES OF PEOPLE. FRENCH POSITION EARLIER STATED IN JUNE COMMUNIQUE, VIZ IF AFRICANS WISH, FRENCH READY RESPOND TO THEIR REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN MEDIUM, LONG-TERM PROBLEMS. FRENCH STRESSED AS THEY HAD IN EARLIER COMMUNIQUE THAT PROGRAMS MUST START FROM PRECISE REQUESTS BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES, NOT PROGRAMS IMPOSED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. FRENCH ALSO VIEWED THIS EFFORT AS REQUIRING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION BECAUSE PROBLEM IS TOO BIG FOR ONE COUNTRY.

FRENCH SEE NEED FOR INTELLIGENT AND EFFICACIOUS
COORDINATION IN ORDER AVOID WASTE. FRENCH AGREED
WITH CONCLUSIONS BY UN FROM JUNE 28 MEETING, WITH
FRENCH PLACING PARTICULAR STRESS ON THE ROLE OF THE
SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE EFFECITVELY TO COORDINATE
UN SYSTEM, AND GIVE IMPRESSION TO WORLD OF FLAWLESS
UNITY BY UN. BETWEEN UN AND OTHER DONOR ORGANIZATIONS,
ALL COORDINATION SHOULD COME FROM THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES
STATED BY DAKOURE. INTERSTATE COMMITTEE IN OUAGA-
DOUGOU SHOULD PERFORMTHIS FUNCTION. UN FIELD OFFICE
COULD HELP WITH THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AT OUAGADOUGOU.
FRENCH HAVE ASKED ORSTROM PREPARE INVENTORY OF RE-
SEARCH DONE IN THE ZONE WHICH SHOULD BE READY MID-JULY.
ALSO PREPARING GENERAL MANUAL ON AGRICULTURAL INFOR-
MATION WHICH WOULD HELP DONORS BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO
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AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS.

9. US STATEMENT PROVIDED SEPTTEL.

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R 301235Z JUN 73
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10. IN DISCUSSION PERIOD PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS WERE THESE:
(A) WOULD MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM PROGRAMS BE CONCEIVED,
EXECUTED, AND IMPLEMENTED AT REGIONAL OR COUNTRY LEVEL?
DAKOURE REPLIED THAT FINAL ANSWER WILL BE DETERMINED
WHEN CHIEFS OF STATE MEET BUT SPIRIT OF MARCH MINISTERS
MEETING WAS THAT ALLNATIONAL PROJECTS THAT COULD BE
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ADJUSTED TO REGIONAL CHARACTER WOULD BE ADJUSTED. IF
COUNTRIES DID NOT PREPARE PROGRAMS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT
NEIGHBOR'S PROGRAMS THERE WOULD BE QUARRELS, ETC. AS-
SURED MEETING THAT SIX STATES WOULD PROCEED IN COOPER-
ATIVE FASHION. (B) WHO WOULD COORDINATE EMERGENCY NEEDS
PAST 1973? MORSE REPLIED THAT FAO WOULD CONTINUE CO-
ORDINATING EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS AS NEEDED IN 1974 AND
1975. (C) DAKOURE ASKED US SPECIFICALLY WHO WOULD BE
EMPOWERED JUDGE WHETHER PROGRAMS WERE SUFFICIENTLY WELL
CONCEIVED TO WARRANT FUNDING; US REPLIED THIS WAS MATTER
TO BE DEALT WITH BETWEEN AFRICAN PROPOSER AND PROSPECTIVE
DONOR. BECAUSE DIFFERENCES MAY EXIST FROM TIME TO TIME,
MAY NOT ALWAYS GET QUICK AGREEMENT. US SUGGESTED THAT
IF INTERSTATE COMMITTEE CAN ESTABLISH MORE ELABORATE
STATEMENT OF GUIDANCE, WITH SOME CONSULTATION WITH THE
MAJOR DONORS THAT WILL BE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE, AGREE-
MENTS BETWEEN PROPOSER AND DONOR ON INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS
CAN BE REACHED MORE QUICKLY. DAKOURE THEN SAID JULY
MEETING OF INTERSTATE COMMITTEE WOULD PREPARE FORUN-
PROPOSED TECHNICAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER WHERE CONSUL-
TATIONS CAN TAKE PLACE AND AGREEMENT REACHED ON FINAL
GUIDELINES AND TRENDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE SIX STATES.
(D) GIVEN TIME RQUIRED TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC PROJECTS
HOW WOULD UN MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL
INTEREST IN ORDER ASSURE AVAILABILITY FINANCING PROJECTS
WHEN THEY ARE READY? ONE SUGGESTION WAS THAT THE

SECGEN'S OFFICE CONSIDER HOLDING ANOTHER GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWING THE TECHNICAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER.

11. MORSE CLOSED BY CITING THREE ACTIONS NEEDING FOLLOW-UP: (A) COMPILATION OF UN PROGRAMS, (B) US PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP SCOPE OF WORK FOR LONG-TERM INVESTIGATION WHICH HE PRESUMED US WOULD FOLLOW UP. (C) SPECIAL FUND WHICH WILL NEED TO BE TAKEN UP BY APPROPRIATE PERSONS IN SECGEN'S OFFICE.

12. COMMENTS ON MEETING FOLLOW SEPTTEL.BASSIN

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